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LAND USE POLICY COMMITTEE

Summary of Activities
March, 1986

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NOVA SCOTIA LAND USE POLICY COMMITTEE

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March, 1986

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Terms of Reference:

On March 11, 1976, the Executive Council established the Deputy Ministers' Committee on Land Use Policy with the following objectives:

"The committee will be charged with all matters relating to land use and the development of land use policy. The committee will cause to be collected all necessary information relating to land use, it will review all matters that have a land use component; and will give advice to Cabinet on land use matters. In addition the committee will initiate discussion and research on land use matters."

This mandate was extended May 31, 1979, when the Executive Council agreed, "to allocate time on a quarterly basis for presentation and discussion of matters arising from the Deputy Ministers' Committee on Land Use Policy. Council also agreed with the recommendation that the Committee should be used as a vehicle for discussion of inter-departmental land use issues by government".

In 1983 it was decided to change the name of the Committee to the "Nova Scotia Land Use Policy Committee". No other changes were made to the terms of reference or the operations of the Committee.

Membership

The following departments compose the Committee:

Department	Deputy Minister	Working Group Representative
Agriculture and Marketing	W. Grant	A. Montgomery
Culture, Recreation & Fitness	L. Stephen	D. MacNamara
Development	N. MacNeil (Acting)	C. Conrad
Environment	A. Abbott	J. Jones
Fisheries	D. MacLean	L. MacLeod
Health	Dr. H. Miller	P. Casey
Housing	R. Geraghty	E. Clarke
Lands and Forests	D. Eldridge	J. Smith
Mines and Energy	J. Laffin	D. Murray
Municipal Affairs	J. Mullally	R. Simpson
Tourism	A. Pinard	C. Way
Transportation	B. Hamm	B. MacDonald

A Policy Board representative is also an ex officio member of the Working Group.

Ms. C. Conrad (Development) acts as secretary to the Committee.

Meetings of the Committee are chaired by the Deputy Minister of the Department of Development. On an interim basis, the committee has been chaired in 1985/86 by the Deputy Minister of Housing.

Working Group

The Land Use Policy Committee has established a permanent working group, composed of senior representatives from each department and aided by Maritime Resource Management Service.

N. Vanstone, MRMS, acts as secretary to the working group, and is assisted by G. Post, M. Cleland and E. Williams.

Work Programme:

The Committee has pursued an active work programme since its inception in 1976. Various subcommittees, known as issue groups, have been established from time to time, many of which have made recommendations through the Deputy Ministers' Committee to Policy Board and Executive Council. Working Group meetings are held monthly; to review reports from issue groups, to consider new initiatives, and to prepare for Deputy Ministers' committee meetings. The Deputy Ministers meet as required.

A number of issue groups have reported to the Working Group and the Deputy Ministers' Committee. In chronological order the major reports considered by the Committee include the following subjects:

1977
Crown Lands: Halifax-Dartmouth area
Special Places
Trails

1978
Land Development Standards (and 1979, 1980)

1979
Aggregates
Watershed Management (and 1980, 1981)

1980
Parks
Coastal Resources Management

1981
Planning Act Review Committee - recommendations
Land Use Data

1982
Downtown Redevelopment
Land Information Index

1983
Interim Report on Land Use and Community Effects of Offshore Oil and Gas development

Resource Book - a guide to land use considerations for proponents of major projects.

1984
Agricultural Land Planning and Development Objectives
Social Impact Monitoring

1985
Provincial Policies for the Conservation of Wildlife Habitats in Nova Scotia
Nova Scotia Land Information Committee Report
Directory of Information Sources relating to Offshore Activities.

NOVA SCOTIA LAND USE POLICY COMMITTEE

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

ISSUE GROUP	ESTABLISHED	REPORTED TO WORKING GROUP	REPORTED TO DEPUTY MINISTERS	REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE	CURRENT STATUS
Crown Lands: Metro	1976	1977	1977	-	Disbanded
Special Places	1976	1977	1977	-	Disbanded
Trails	1976	1977, 1980 1981	1977	1979	Disbanded
Land Development Standards	1976	1977, 1978 1979, 1980 1982	1978, 1979	1978, 1979 1985	Active
Aggregates	1976	1978	1979	-	Disbanded
Watershed Management	1976	1979, 1980 1981	1979, 1980, 1981	1980, 1985	Active
Estuarine Fisheries	1976	1981	-	1979	Awaiting Direction
Parks	1977	1979, 1980	1980	1981	Disbanded
Coastal Resources	1978	1979, 1980 1981	1980	1980	Awaiting Direction
Agricultural Land Use	1978	1984, 1985	1984, 1985	1981	Active
Land Use Data	1979	1980, 1981	1981	-	Disbanded
Downtown Redevelopment	1980	1982, 1984 1985	-	-	Active
Wildlife Habitats	1980	1982, 1984 1985	1985	-	Active
Parks (Standing Cttee)	1981	-	-	-	Awaiting Direction
Mapping Coordination	1981	1982	-	-	Disbanded
ffshore	1983	1983, 1984	1983, 1985	-	Active
d rmation	1984	1985	1985	-	Active

Recent and Current Activities:

Work of a number of issue groups continues to be very active. In particular, issue groups dealing with Land Information, Land Use and Community Effects of Offshore Oil and Gas Development, Agricultural Land Use, Downtown Redevelopment and Wildlife Habitats have all made recommendations.

In December 1984 the Deputy Ministers' Committee approved the establishment of a Land Information Committee under the Land Use Policy Committee. The Land Use Data Issue Group and the Mapping Coordination Committee, established in 1980 and 1981 respectively, have been disbanded. This scommittee has been very active in 1985 preparing a major report as well as sponsoring workshops and research projects.

The report of the Wildlife Habitats Issue Group was approved by the Province and released in June 1985. Implementation of the report will be co-ordinated by a newly created Wildlife Habitat Advisory Committee which will operate as a standing committee under the LUPC. The issue group has been disbanded subsequent to the acceptance of their report.

The Land Use Policy Committee directed considerable attention to the development of a co-ordinated approach to the establishment of provincial land use policies under the Planning Act. Several sample policy statements have been prepared to demonstrate the possible scope of the Planning Act. Options to ensure a co-ordinated approach to provincial land use policies are being reviewed. Several surveys have been undertaken with provincial, municipal nd private sector groups to determine a set of priorities for action.

Publications:

As a direct result of issue group recommendations the following informational publications have been prepared by the Committee:

1. Land Information Index available from N.S. Government Bookstore $15.00
2. Nova Scotia Resource Book
3. Downtown Information Kit available from Mainstreet Programme, Department of Development
4. If you are proposing to Subdivide, Build on or Develop available from Department of Municipal Affairs

The Committee has also actively supported the preparation and publication of two resource inventories:

1. Estuarine Fisheries Inventory 1:100,000 available from Department of Fisheries or M.R.M.S.
2. Freshwater Wetlands and Coastal Wildlife Habitats 1:100,000 available from Lands and Forests or M.R.M.S.

APPENDIX 1

SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES OF ACTIVE ISSUE GROUPS

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2. Agricultural Land Use	10
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4. Downtown Redevelopment	16
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LAND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

1976

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS (lead agency)
ENVIRONMENT
HEALTH
HOUSING COMMISSION
TRANSPORTATION
POLICY BOARD

LAND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS ISSUE GROUP

INTRODUCTION

Land development standard issues continue to concern provincial departments. These concerns can generally be placed in three broad categories.

1. Provision of Provincial Services. Land development activity in rural areas often places additional demands on provincial services but because of the jurisdictional split in development control between the Province (subdivision regulations) and municipalities (development and building permits) it is often difficult for departments to plan and deliver these services in a cost effective and equitable manner.

   The issue of most concern is the proliferation of rural private road subdivision and development activity. Such development can be justified in certain situations, i.e. cottage development, however all too often pressure is placed on the Department of Transportation to accept maintenance responsibility for these roads with the additional request that the expenditure necessary to bring the road up to provincial specifications be financed out of the provincial coffer. It is the opinion of the Department of Transportation that this places an unnecessary burden on the provincial taxpayer and that this burden should be shifted to those directly benefiting from the service improvements. This would provide for a more equitable distribution of cost and avoid abuse of private road subdivision activity. Methods of implementing such a user pay concept needs to be evaluated.

2. Development Control Standards. Concern has been expressed by the Department of Housing and private developers that unreasonable development control standards and procedures are being adopted i.e. requirement for sophisticated contract development agreements in rural areas. These standards can cause unnecessary delays and expense to residential development both in the public and private sectors.

   To address this concern it is suggested that the issue be documented and that options to resolve these difficulties be evaluated with appropriate recommendations.

3. Streamlining Provincial Development Control. Some significant strides to streamline provincial development control have been achieved within recent years, most notably the link between on-site sewage approvals and sub-division approvals. Opportunities exist to expand this streamlined approach into other areas i.e. ensuring that adequate water supplies are available before a development proceeds.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Land Development Standards Issue Group be reactivated to specifically address the following tasks:

1. IMPROVE PROVINCIAL CONTROL AND CO-ORDINATION OVER THE DELIVERY OF ROAD SERVICES DEMANDED BY RURAL RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT.

   The priority issue to be addressed is a method(s) of placing the cost of all new rural public residential road construction with those agencies or individuals making the commitment for or requesting public road maintenance.

   Other matters to be addressed include:
   - development along old unlisted public roads;
   - the problems created by the private road provisions under the Planning Act.

2. EVALUATE AND RECOMMEND APPROPRIATE WAYS TO ATTAIN REASONABLE DEVELOPMENT CONTROL STANDARDS WITHIN THE PROVINCE.

   Matters to be addressed are:
   - standardization of reasonable service requirements by municipalities and provincial departments i.e. road, sewer and water specifications;
   - misuse of contract development agreements by municipalities.

3. STREAMLINE THE PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PROCESS.

   The priority issue to be addressed is to determine the most appropriate method of ensuring that water resource considerations (quantity and quality) have been addressed during the development approval process.

MEMBERSHIP

Department of the Environment
Department of Health
Department of Housing
Department of Municipal Affairs
Department of Transportation
Policy Board

Chairmanship: Department of Municipal Affairs

AGRICULTURAL LAND USE

1978

AGRICULTURE (lead agency)
DEVELOPMENT
ENVIRONMENT
LANDS AND FORESTS
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS
TRANSPORTATION

AGRICULTURAL LAND USE ISSUE GROUP

1. Definition. Land which is used for agricultural production or which has potential for agricultural production.

2. Background. The policies of the Department of Agriculture and those supported by Agricultural Development Agreements have the major purpose of expanding and making more viable the agricultural industry of Nova Scotia. Responsibilities include improving cleared land and general assistance to farmers. There are some major activities of other provincial departments which may affect these policies. Amongst these activities may be: methods of assessment and taxation, alteration of land drainage from construction activities, waste disposal regulations, location of educational and other institutional facilities, and forestry practices.

   Conversely, there are agricultural activities which may conflict with other provincial department policies as well as with human settlements in general. Examples are disposal of manure, contamination of shellfisheries, agricultural practices in municipal water supply areas, land clearing practices, drainage of wetlands, protection of land from flooding and erosion, location of supportive industries (feedmills), and nuisances to adjacent non-farm owners.

3. Objectives. The main objective of this issue group will be to evaluate (the development of) the agricultural resource base.

   To achieve this, the issue group will:
   a) examine the relationships between agricultural activities and other resource sectors;
   b) consider land use trends in relation to agriculture and to propose ways to achieve the main objective while minimizing conflicts between types of land use;
   c) examine the interactions between agricultural land use and the activities of provincial departments. This will include a review of all existing regulations, programmes, and policies that affect agricultural land and propose changes designed, as far as possible, to make programmes mutually supportive.
   d) study, in particular, the possibility of establishing agricultural districts in which provincial land use decisions reflect agricultural objectives;
   e) review initiatives taken at the municipal level regarding the protection of agricultural land, e.g. municipal development plans;

f) study the issue of "development rights" and compensation for land;

g) assess the impact of any proposed policy and programme changes on agriculture, settlements, and local rural economies; also examine the impact on the operations and responsibilities of the participating departments.

h) make recommendations to the Nova Scotia Deputy Ministers' Committee on Land Use Policy.

PARKS, HERITAGE RESOURCES AND OUTDOOR RECREATION*

1980

LANDS AND FORESTS (lead agency)
CULTURE, RECREATION AND FITNESS
MUSEUM (EDUCATION)**
TOURISM

*A sub-committee of the four deputy ministers of the concerned departments has appointed a standing committee to conduct the work programme.

**The Department of Education is not represented on the Land Use Policy Committee.

PARKS SYSTEM ISSUE GROUP

(original terms of reference, 1977)

1. Definition. Provincial parks and related outdoor recreation development, use and activities.

2. Background. Parks development, formerly confined to roadside picnic areas, has broadened to include a wide variety of park types. Development and activities sponsored by Lands and Forests, the Nova Scotia Museum, Tourism and Culture, Recreation and Fitness all contribute to the outdoor recreation system. Municipal Affairs through the regional parks designated in the Halifax - Dartmouth Regional Development Plan are also involved. A recently completed study sponsored by Lands and Forests has proposed a Provincial Park Classification System and an administrative structure designed to ensure involvement and co-ordination among Departments. The study clearly shows the necessity for departments of the Provincial government concerned to work together.

3. Objectives. This issue group will:
   a) recommend a parks system classification for the Province, to be adopted by all agencies involved in outdoor recreation;
   b) clearly define roles which the various Provincial departments will assume in the establishment of the Park System and recommend a method for continued inter-departmental co-operation.

4. Representatives:
   Education (N.S. Museum)
   Lands and Forests
   Municipal Affairs
   Recreation
   Tourism

5. Situation. Both objectives of this issue group have been achieved. A standing committee of the four departments most involved was established in 1981.

The following recommendations of the Parks System Issue Group were adopted by the Deputy Ministers' Committee on Land Use Policy in 1980.

1. The Deputy Ministers' Committee on Land Use Policy accepts in principle the concept of a Parks, Heritage Resources and Outdoor Recreation System and supporting administrative programme.

2. The Deputy Ministers' Committee on Land Use Policy adopts the goal and objectives for the Parks, Heritage Resources and Outdoor Recreation System and, in so doing, accepts in principle the concepts of an integrated approach to systems planning and of common management principles (i.e. classification, zoning, site development standards).

3. The Deputy Ministers' Committee on Land Use Policy establishes a Parks, Heritage Resources and Outdoor Recreation Sub-committee to facilitate the overall co-ordination of the programme, and this committee is assigned the following tasks in the short term:

   a) The review and integration of the recommendations advanced by the Parks, Special Places, and Trails Issue Groups, including consideration of the proposed legislation to protect heritage buildings and the parkway designation (Highways Act).
   b) The co-ordination of the efforts of individual departments respecting the development of common frameworks for systems planning and target establishment:
      i) Theme Regions (Lands and Forests, Education)
      ii) Demand/Supply Balance (Lands and Forests, Tourism and Recreation)
   c) The review and finalization of a system-wide classification system and the assignment of roles respecting the management of each class, and of a complementary approach to zoning and resource management.
   d) The identification of an appropriate mechanism (e.g. Green Paper) for achieving public consultation respecting the management of the Parks, Heritage Resources and Outdoor Recreation System, and its component programmes (e.g. Provincial Parks, Trails, Special Places (Proposed)).

4. Participating departments assign a high priority to their individual responsibilities regarding the implementation of the Parks, Heritage Resources and Outdoor Recreation Programme, particularly as these relate to the development of systems planning frameworks (e.g. 3(b)).

DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT

1980

DEVELOPMENT (lead agency)
CULTURE, RECREATION AND FITNESS
GOVERNMENT SERVICES*
HOUSING COMMISSION
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS
SOCIAL SERVICES*
TRANSPORTATION
TOURISM

*The Departments of Government Services and Social Services are not represented on the Land Use Policy Committee.

DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT ISSUE GROUP

The following memorandum, prepared by administrators of the Mainstreet Programme, was accepted as the basis of a Downtown Redevelopment Issue Group by the Deputy Ministers' Committee in 1980.

It has become evident in the course of the carrying out of a number of downtown revitalization plans that the role of provincial government agencies in downtown renewal is a key one. Obviously the demand for new government offices in the downtown directly result in new development. In addition government grants available for tourism, recreational, industrial, and residential development as well as for sewer, water and road infrastructural needs can indirectly result in many other new facilities. These are often of the catalyst type which can begin to turn the tide for a declining downtown.

Downtown land is a scarce resource which must be carefully husbanded to ensure it is being put to the best use. Retail and office commercial are only the most obvious uses in downtown. There is starting to be a demand for more centrally located multi-family residential units and for senior citizen housing. Energy costs and the new interest in heritage environments are driving tourism and recreational facilities such as museums, theatres, and arenas back downtown. Especially with the promise of offshore oil and gas development, some of our downtown waterfronts will be coming under pressure for marine industrial, fishing-related and tourist-recreational facilities all in the same area. With the Mainstreet Program encouraging the redevelopment of downtowns, the debate among competing uses will soon become acute.

Up to now the Mainstreet Program has been concentrating on the retail and office buildings and on beautification of their street frontage. However, the more comprehensive downtown planning exercises which are funded through the Program, such as the one currently near completion in Yarmouth, bring to light the need for clearly-stated government policy and possibly action in a number of fields. They make evident the need for a coordinated approach to downtown so that one department agency is not competing needlessly for the same development site with another or unknowingly working against another. A number of these perceived problem and opportunity areas are listed on the accompying sheet.

An issue group on Downtown Land Use and Development is required. It should be formed of representatives of all the key agencies with an impact on downtown, these agencies being suggested on the accompanying sheet, and meet regularly with the aim of coming up with a coordinated approach to downtown development.

Some Downtown Development Issues

1. What is the possibility of a system of well-designed and controlled signs on the limited access highways directing drivers including tourists to the major established communities and specifically their downtowns?

2. What encouragement should be given to the beautification of entry points to towns and downtowns on provincial secondary highways?

3. How much encouragement should be given to the alteration of Main Streets that are provincial highways with respect to changing traffic patterns, erecting street furniture, and widening sidewalks?

4. How much assistance should be given for sewer, water, road and utilities upgrading in downtown redevelopment schemes?

5. Can the development of government facilities including office buildings, senior citizen housing and Liquor Commissions be justified on the more expensive downtown sites as an incentive to renewal?

6. Can multi-use facilities donwtown such as a winter arena summer theatre complex be funded partially by the various agencies involved - in the example given by both Tourism and Recreation?

7. Will downtown street-scapes be given special consideration and planning and other assistance under the Heritage Property Act?

8. Can government enter into development agreements with the municipal and private sectors to develop joint downtown projects - eg. a new Liquor Commission with parking shared with new retail facilities?

9. Can a case ever be made for some industries, especially marine-related ones on a waterfront, being encouraged in a downtown rather than a peripheral industrial park?

10. Can retail sales tax data be put into such a form that it would be useful for downtown retail market feasibility studies?

11. What encouragement can be given to craft shops and other tourist-related enterprises to locate in downtowns?

12. How much encouragement should be given to the burying of power and telephone lines?

13. What degree of cooperation can the Power Corporation achieve with downtown renewal efforts?

WILDLIFE HABITATS

1981

LANDS AND FORESTS (lead agency)
AGRICULTURE
ENVIRONMENT
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS
MUSEUM (EDUCATION)*

*The Department of Education is not represented on the Land Use Policy Committee.

WILDLIFE HABITATS ISSUE GROUP

1. Objective. The protection and maintenance of terrestrial and aquatic areas essential for the survival and reproduction of certain vertebrate species, excluding fish. Priority areas include habitats of animals with a declining population as well as those where species or species groups concentrate during critical periods of their life cycles.

2. Policies. The Wildlife Habitats Issue Group shall:
   i) identify significant or priority wildlife habitats in Nova Scotia;
   ii) identify mechanisms suitable for the protection of significant wildlife habitats;
   iii) identify management strategies suitable for the proper maintenance of wildlife habitats;
   iv) identify participants in the administration of this work and their respective areas of responsibility; and
   v) based upon this work, make recommendations to the Deputy Ministers' Committee on Land use Policy with respect to provincial policy and programmes for wildlife habitats.

3. Work Programme. The following work program of the Wildlife Habitats Issue Group is proposed for the achievement of these policies:
   i) identify significant or priority wildlife habitats in Nova Scotia:
   - determine sub-categories of types of habitats included (e.g. salt marshes, colonial bird nesting sites, piping plover breeding sites);
   - identify and map all potential wildlife habitats for these categories;
   - determine criteria to be established to assess significant or priority areas (e.g. rarity, sensitivity, importance, etc.);
   - apply the criteria to the areas;
   - identify priority areas (preferably in some order of significance to assist the government with decisions re acquisition, etc.);

ii) identify mechanisms suitable for the protection of significant wildlife habitats:
- review initiatives to date of the private, municipal, provincial and federal sectors;
- identify present and potential threats to wildlife habitats in Nova Scotia;
- determine public acceptance of protection mechanisms through a public opinion survey;
- identify suitable mechanisms for Nova Scotia (concentration on the provincial level but include recommendations for other levels to be used in conjunction) and indicate conditions under which each one might be most suitable;
- recommend a package of the better mechanisms based on identified criteria (e.g. cost, legislative ease, effectiveness, public acceptance, etc.)

iii) identify management strategies suitable for the proper maintenance of wildlife habitats:
- review methods used in other provinces, the U.S. and Europe;
- identify several strategies suitable for Nova Scotia;
- determine and recommend the best strategy or strategies for use in Nova Scotia;

iv) identify participants in the administration and their respective areas of responsibility:
- review participants in the identification, protection and maintenance of wildlife habitats in other areas;
- review the Acts and areas of responsibilities of the various provincial departments;
- determine and recommend the most suitable participants and their identified areas of responsibility;

v) make recommendations to the Deputy Ministers' Committee on Land Use Policy:
- prepare a report and maps presenting the work of the issue group as identified above and the recommendations of the group;
- prepare a summary report with recommendations and maps.

OFFSHORE

1983

AGRICULTURE AND MARKETING
CULTURE, RECREATION & FITNESS
DEVELOPMENT
EDUCATION*
EMERGENCY MEASURES ORGANIZATION*
ENVIRONMENT (lead department: pipeline and environmental concerns)
FISHERIES
HEALTH
HOUSING
LABOUR AND MANPOWER*
LANDS AND FORESTS
MINES AND ENERGY
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS (lead department: community effects)
SOCIAL SERVICES*
TOURISM
TRANSPORTATION

*These departments are not represented on the Land Use Policy Committee.

OFFSHORE ISSUE GROUP

Terms of Reference

1. Definition: In general the issue group will be concerned with the onshore effects of offshore development, exclusive of manpower training and industrial benefits.

   Offshore development is understood to include; exploration, development, production, transmission, transportation and abandonment of oil and gas. Onshore effects in the following subject areas will be analyzed:

   Housing, Community and Social Services
   Health, Education and Protection Services
   Effects on Natural Resources and the Environment
   Industrial and Community Infrastructure Requirements
   Municipal Preparedness
   Public Consultation
   Other Appropriate Subjects

2. Background: The report of the Sub-Committee on Land Use and Community Effects submitted to the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Benefits in October 1982 makes 68 recommendations designed to "...maximize benefits and to minimize ... negative effects". Many of these recommendations need to be examined in more detail or to be reconsidered as new development plans are prepared. This report and its recommendations will form the basis for issue group deliberations but will not limit them.

3. Objectives:
   i) to review in detail, amend and add to, as necessary the recommendations contained in the report, "Land Use and Community Effects of Scotian Shelf Gas Development",
      (a) considering the development of the Venture gas field as defined in the Mobil Oil Co. Environment Impact Statement and cumulative effects of proposed exploration.
      (b) considering possible developments as outlined in the "Sequential Case" scenario defined by Thorne, et. al.
      (c) considering any significantly different scenarios as they become available.
   ii) to consider the land use and community effects of construction and operation of gas pipelines (trunk and lateral lines).
   iii) to prepare recommendations in these subject areas for consideration by the Deputy Ministers' Committee on Land Use Policy.

4. Membership: All departments on the Nova Scotia Land Use Policy Committee with the addition of Department of Social Services.

5. Operations: The issue group will operate according to the established principles of the committee.

Lead department is Municipal Affairs.

A number of existing committees are investigating related matters. The issue group will endeavour to use this material and expertise whenever it is relevant. In order to ensure that full and constant knowledge of these related activities is efficiently maintained and that information on new exploration and development plans is available to the issue group the following four departments will meet to provide coordination:

Development, Environment, Mines and Energy, and Municipal Affairs.

In the interests of operational efficiency the subject matter will be divided as follows, with the lead department underlined:

i) Physical and Social Infrastructure: Culture, Recreation and Fitness, Development, Environment, Health, Housing, Municipal Affairs, Social Services, Tourism, Transportation.
   Includes: a) All publicly funded construction requirements,
   b) Community planning, municipal preparedness and public consultation,
   c) Delivery of publicly funded services.

ii) Natural Resources and the Environment: Agriculture, Environment, Fisheries, Lands and Forests, Mines and Energy, Municipal Affairs.
   Includes: a) Positive and negative changes to existing and potential resource utilization,
   b) Changes to environmental quality.

The key departments identified in each subject area will meet, other departments may attend as they wish. The issue group will report to the Working Group and the Deputy Ministers' Committee at least every two months, and more frequently if required, both to provide timely advice and to receive direction.

LAND INFORMATION COMMITTEE

1985

LAND SURVEY INSTITUTE
LANDS AND FORESTS
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

LAND INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Terms of Reference

Background

In February of 1981 a Nova Scotia Mapping Coordinating Committee was established under the Nova Scotia Deputy Ministers' Committee on Land Use Policy. This committee consists of nine departmental representatives with a technical background in mapping and has served well in responding to technicalaspects of mapping particularly as it concerns the Land Registration and Information Service (LRIS). There has however been a significant void respecting the broader policy and program opportunities the Province should consider in the area of land information management. Significant opportunities exist to integrate mapping with other land data sources using digital (computer) technology.

In 1980 the Deputy Ministers' Committee also established a Land Use Data Issue Group which prepared a number of reports dealing with automated geographic information systems (GIS) and prepared the Provincial Land Information Index. This group has been inactive because of lack of funding to prepare recommended studies to evaluate geographic information systems and their application. Much has happened since the issue group reports in 1982; the technology of GIS has matured; departments have had experience with GIS through pilot projects; and, the LRIS has embarked on a digital mapping program which should assist departments in the use of GIS.

Because of the obvious link between mapping and land use data it is recommended that the mapping committee and land use data group be blended into an active Nova Scotia Land Information Committee.

Nova Scotia Land Information Committee Mandate

It is recommended that the committee's mandate be:

1. To establish an appropriate provincial land information management system which:

   i) responds to present and future land information needs;
   ii) coordinates departmental land information activities;
   iii) makes use of proven digital technology to increase efficiency and minimize cost.

2. To guide the implementation of the provincial land information system.

3. To assist the Nova Scotia LRIS and MRMS board members in directing the activities of these two agencies.

Committee Structure and Membership

It is proposed that the committee consist of four members and a chairman. Each of the members will be assigned the responsibility of chairing an interdepartmental sub-committee in one of the following land information disciplines: survey control; base mapping; property information; and thematic geographic information. (A membership chart and terms of reference for each sub-committee is attached.) The intent of the committee structure is to provide techncial support for policy development through the sub-committees.

The Land Information Committee will report to the Nova Scotia Land Use Policy Committee on all policy matters and will directly assist and advise provincial departments, federal agencies and LRIS on all technical land information matters.

Proposed Members:

Chairman:	Mr. J. Doig, Principal N.S. Land Survey Institute
Survey Control Coordinator:	Mr. M. Banks, Manager, Crown Land Surveys Department of Lands and Forests
Base Mapping Coordinator:	Mr. K. Aucoin, Director of Surveys Department of Lands and Forests
Property Information Coordinator:	Mr. R. Warren, Director of Assessment Department of Municipal Affairs
Thematic Land Information Coordinator:	Mr. R. Simpson, Director of Community Planning Department of Municipal Affairs
Secretary:	Mr. G. Post Maritime Resource Management Service

Survey Control Sub-Committee - Terms of Reference

Definition: Survey control refers to the mathematical reference structure used to locate the actual and relative geographical positions of points on, above and below the land is used for base mapping and land surveying.

Approximately $10 million has been invested in the provincial survey control monument system through the LRIS.

Mandate: The sub-committee will review the use and maintenance of the provincial survey coordinate system and will report on such matters as: maintenance responsibility; maintenance scheduling; densification of system; and optimal use of the system.

Membership The committee will consist of individuals with expertise in the field of survey control representing the following departments and agencies:

Education
Housing
Lands and Forests
Maritime Tel and Tel
N.S. Power Corporation
Transportation

The Provincial Survey Control Coordinator will chair this sub-committee and will act as the provincial contact with other levels of government, LRIS and the professional survey and mapping community on all matters of survey control.

Base Mapping Sub-Committee - Terms of Reference

Definition: Base mapping is the graphic description of the land terrain in either map or enhanced aerial photo form with a high degree of accuracy.

Base mapping in Nova Scotia is currently provided for by the LRIS at scales of 1:1,000; 1:2,000 and 1:5,000 for urban areas and 1:10,000 for rural (resource) areas. Complete coverage at these scales is now available for the province; the current emphasis is to establish a digital (computer) map base.

Mandate: The sub-committee will review the current and future base mapping needs of the province and report to the Land Information Committee.

The sub-committee will provide technical input into all base mapping programs undertaken by the province and LRIS and provide advice and assistance on such matters as map specifications, map scale, map accuracy and the sequence and phasing of mapping.

The sub-committee will recommend appropriate ways for the province to take advantage of the digital (computer) mapping technology.

Membership: The committee will consist of individuals with a working background in base mapping and the use of base maps representing the following departments:

- Agriculture
- Development
- Education
- Environment
- Lands and Forests
- Maritime Tel and Tel
- Mines and Energy
- Municipal Affairs
- Transportation

The Provincial Base Mapping Coordinator will chair this sub-committee and will act as the provincial contact with other levels of government, LRIS and the mapping community on all matters of base mapping.

Property Information Sub-Committee - Terms of Reference

Definition: Property information refers to all information collected and maintained by provincial departments and agencies respecting property ownership and therefore includes assessment data (Municipal Affairs), crown land information (Lands and Forests), property mapping (LRIS), registry of deeds information (Attorney General), non-resident ownership registry (Lands and Forests).

Mandate: The sub-committee will review current and future property information data needs and evaluate the present data bases in meeting these requirements.

The sub-committee will explore potential linkages between different data bases, particularly electronic (digital) linkages to improve the efficiency and use of available data sources.

Membership: Members of the committee should have a good knowledge of property information requirements, data collection and maintenance systems and should represent the following departments:

- Agriculture
- Attorney General
- Lands and Forests
- Maritime Tel and Tel
- Mines and Energy
- Municipal Affairs
- Transportation

The Provincial Property Information Coordinator will chair this sub-committee and will act as the provincial contact with other levels of government and LRIS on all matters relating to property information.

Thematic Land Information Sub-Committee - Terms of Reference

Definition: Thematic land information refers to all land related information (excluding property ownership) which is usually overlayed on base maps and includes resource inventories; land use; census data; soils and climate information etc.

Mandate: The sub-committee will assess interdepartmental opportunities to more efficiently collect and maintain thematic land information.

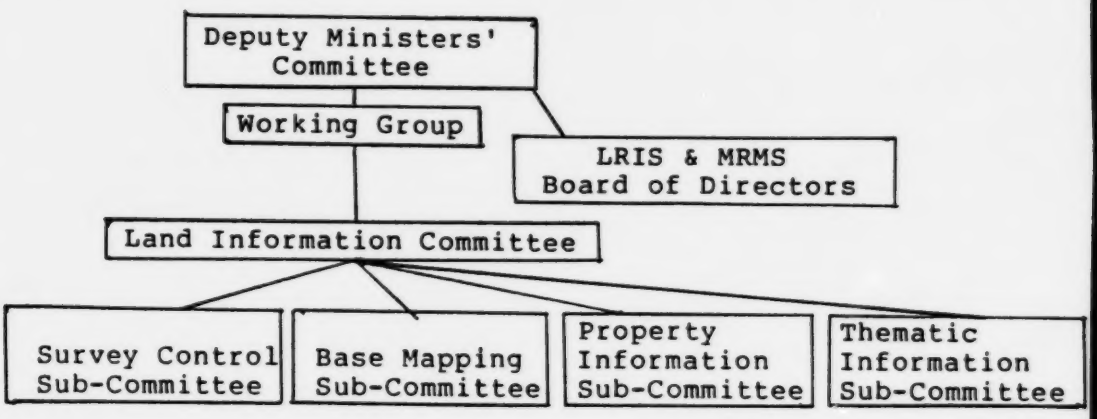
The sub-committee will assess data storage and retrieval systems such as digital geographic information systems and digital mapping technology.

Membership: Members of the committee should have a good understanding of thematic data requirements by their departments and represent the following agencies:

- Agriculture
- Development
- Education
- Environment
- Fisheries
- Government Services
- Health
- Housing
- Lands and Forests
- Maritime Tel and Tel
- Mines and Energy
- Municipal Affairs
- N.S. Power Corporation
- Recreation
- Tourism
- Transportation

The Provincial Thematic Land Information Coordinator will chair this sub-committee and will act as the provincial contact with other levels of government, LRIS and MRMS respecting all matters relating to the sub-committee's mandate.

PROVINCIAL LAND INFORMATION COMMITTEE



Departments	Survey Control Sub-Committee	Base Mapping Sub-Committee	Property Information Sub-Committee	Thematic Information Sub-Committee
Agriculture	*	x	x	x
Attorney General	*		x	
Development		x	*	x
Environment	*	x	*	x
Fisheries		*	*	x
Government Services	*	*	*	x
Health		*	*	x
Housing	x	*	*	x
Lands and Forests	x	x	x	x
Maritime Tel & Tel	x	x	x	x
Mines and Energy	*	x	x	x
Municipal Affairs	*	x	x	x
N.S. Power Corp.	x	*	*	x
Recreation		*	*	x
Tourism		*	*	x
Transportation	x	x	x	x
Education	x	x	*	x

xDepartments with a key interest.
*Departments with a secondary interest.

WATER RESOURCES

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ENVIRONMENT (lead agency)
HEALTH
LANDS AND FORESTS
MINES AND ENERGY
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS
AGRICULTURE

WATER RESOURCES ISSUE GROUP

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Water Supply Watersheds

   To update earlier work of the Water Issue Group and to revise and update the proposed provincial policy paper on the management and protection of surface water supply watersheds.

2. Groundwater Management and Protection

   To prepare a situation Overview and Discussion paper on policy options to ensure the protection and management of groundwater resources.

3. Enforcement Responsibilities

   To review enforcement responsibilities and recommend areas in need of change and/or clarification.

4. Technical Guidelines

   To develop a series of technical guidelines and information for a range of uses to ensure the management and protection of provincial water resources.

5. Information Program

   To assist in the development of information programs on water resource issues.

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